

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 139898
ORIGIN SS-15

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNA:BJSHARP

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S/S-O:DSCOTT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139898

EXDIS FOR AMB YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT ABIDJAN 4201 ACTION SECSTATE JUNE 1.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 5201

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MOPS, EFIN, EAID, CG, IV

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON RECOVERY EFFORT FOR ZAIRE

REF: A. STATE 137343, B. A IDJAN 4845

1. IVORIAN PRESS MAY 22 PROMINENTLY REPORTED STATEMENT
ATTRIBUTED TO HOUPHOUET IN PARIS (REF B) THAT IVORY COAST
WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT ENGAGE IVORIAN TROOPS IN ZAIRE BUT
WOULD ASSIST ZAIRE WITH FOOD AND MEDICAL AID. SINCE THIS
STATEMENT HAS NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN MODIFIED BY HOUPHOUET
IN PARIS OR BY GOIC IN ABIDJAN IN PAST WEEK, WE ASSUME
THAT IT STILL REPRESENTS IVORIAN POLICY AND THAT, WHILE
GOIC WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AMPLE MORAL AND SOME MATERIAL
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SUPPORT TO ZAIRE, IVORIAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT REPEAT NOT
PLAN TO CONTRIBUTE TROOPS TO INTER-AFRICAN FORCE.

2. SUCH A POLICY WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT IMPLY IVORIAN
OPPOSITION TO CREATION OF INTER-FRICAN PEACE KEEPING
FORCE FOR ZAIRE - INDEED FORCE OF THIS KIND WOULD BE CON-
SISTENT WITH HOUPHOUET'S BELIEF THAT MODERATE

AFRICAN STATES SHOULD DO MORE TO STRENGTHEN THEIR DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY WITH WESTERN HELP - BUT WOULD REFLECT HOUPHOUET'S PREFERENCE FOR DIALOGUE RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION AND HIS TRADITIONAL RELUCTANCE TO COMMIT MODEST IVORIAN MILITARY RESOURCES (ALL SERVICES REPRESENT TOTAL STRENGTH OF ABOUT 5,000 MEN) OUTSIDE OF IVORY COAST.

3. DEPARTMENT REPEAT OTHER POSTS AS DESIRED.

STEARNS

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 02 jun 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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